REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 4, and 5 are pending in the present application, Claims 2, 4, and 5 having been amended, and Claims 1 and 3 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Applicants request that the present amendment after final be entered as no new issues requiring further search and/or consideration are raised.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Ahmed et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,631,127, hereinafter Ahmed) in view of Malladi et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0210668); Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Ahmed in view of Malladi, and further in view of Miyoshi et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0022629, hereinafter Miyoshi); and Claims 2 and 4 were objected to for depending from a rejected base claim, but were indicated as including allowable subject matter.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. In light of this indication, Claims 2 and 4 are rewritten in independent form and Claims 1 and 3 are canceled. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 2 and 4 (and dependent Claim 5) are in condition for allowance.

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Consequently, in light of the above discussion, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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